the banks for sanctioning loans to the workers of cinema industry for production of films/TV serials etc.

(b) whether Government would relax the conditions to reach the benefit to the target group; and

(c) whether Government would launch a special scheme for providing loan to make TV serials on national integration and communal harmony?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued broad guidelines to the commercial banks on 14th May, 2001 regarding bank finance for production of films. RBI guidelines envisage financing film producers with a good track record and also green field projects. It was also suggested in the guidelines that banks may avail services of specialized/experts of industry in project evaluation. Following the issuance of RBI guidelines, SBI and other nationalized banks excluding Corporation Bank, Syndicate Bank, United Bank of India and Vijaya Bank have approved policy on film financing. The remaining banks are still in the process of familiarizing with the intricacies involved in financing this comparatively new Area. As on 30th September, 2001 banks have financed 167 commercial films involving an amount of Rs. 174.78 crore and 37 documentaries/TV Serials involving an amount of Rs. 28.56 crore. There is no special scheme, at present, for providing loan to make TV Serial on National Integration and Communal Harmony.

Fall in Industrial Growth Rate

242. SHRI C.O. POULOSE:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Industrial growth rate recorded a fall in the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the extent of slide as compared to the growth rate of the corresponding months of the previous year;

(c) the reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps taken to arrest the fall in growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Industrial growth rate measured by the Index of Industrial Production declined during the first six months of the current financial year;

The month-wise industrial growth rates April—Sept. 2001 and April—Sept. 2000 are indicated below:

Month-wise growth rates of Industrial Production (IIP)

(Base; 1993-94=100) (per cent)

Year/Month	2000-01	2001-02
April	6.5	2.6
May	6.0	1.7
June	5.9	2.7
July	5.0	2.4
August	5.0	2.7
September	1.6	5.9
April—September	5.7	2.3

(c) The reasons for the industrial slow down include:

- Comparatively lower agricultural production in the past two years resulting in lower aggregate demand.
- Economic slowdown in U.S. and many other countries adversely affecting India's exports.
- Persistence of infrastructure bottrenecks and lack of investment demand.
- High real interest rates and
- Subdued business sentiment due to normal business cycles.

(d) Various fiscal and financial measures have already been announced by the Government in the Budget for 2001-02 to boost industrial production, public and private investment including foreign investment.